AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting Ethernet data frames from a first local area network (LAN) to a second local area network (LAN) comprising the steps of:

- mapping Ethernet frames from the first local area network onto a Plesiochronous Digital Hierarchy (PDH) data stream via a_Generic Framing Procedure (GFP),

- transmitting said mapped Ethernet frames via a first En-network to an-a Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (SDH)-level network,

- receiving the transmission at the second local area network through the SDH-level network ,

- demapping the Ethernet frames from the first local area network via the_Generic Framing Procedure, and

-_transmitting said demapped frames into the second local area network.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second LANs are Ethernet LANs, and wherein according to which-said mapping is carried out at a junction point between the first Ethernet LAN and a first En-network.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second LANs are Ethernet LANs, and wherein according to which-said demapping is carried out at a junction point between the second En-network and the second Ethernet LAN.

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4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, according to which the transport of

the GFP frames through the SDH-network is carried out ~~by means of so called~~ using virtual

containers~~,~~ (VCx-containers).

5.   (Currently Amended) A system for transmitting Ethernet data frames from a first

local area network to a second local area network, comprising~~-~~:

    - means for mapping Ethernet frames from the first local area network onto a

Plesiochronous Digital Hierarchy (PDH) format via a Generic Framing Procedure (GFP),

    - means for transmitting said mapped Ethernet frames via a first En-network to an

~~PDH~~SDH-level network.

6.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, additionally comprising means for:

    - receiving the transmission at the second local area network through the SDH-level

network via a second En-network,

    - demapping the Ethernet frames from the first local area network via Generic Framing

Procedure, and

    - transmitting said demapped frames into the second local area network.

7.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, in which the means for said

mapping is arranged at a junction point between the first ~~Ethernet~~ LAN and a first En-network.

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8. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 6, according to which said

means for demapping is arranged at a junction point between the second En-network and ~~the~~ a

second ~~Ethernet~~ LAN.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, in which the transport of the GFP

frames through the SDH-network is carried out ~~by means of so called~~ with virtual containers,

(VCx-containers).

10. (New) The system of claim 5, wherein the first and second LANs are Ethernet

LANs.

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